

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A coin selecting machine comprising
a coin feeder for sequentially feeding coins resting with one of their sides on
a flow plane,
a selection device along a path of the coins, the selection device having in said
flow plane sequential apertures for passage of the coins according to diameter,
a powered conveyor belt facing the flow plane for dragging the coins over the
apertures, the selection device having along a selection path a sequence of pulleys
arranged over the apertures to rest on said powered conveyor belt on a side opposite
a side facing the flow plane,
the pulleys being spaced from each other in such a manner that each passage
for a coin diameter includes at least one pulley of the plurality of pulleys and each
pulley of the plurality of pulleys being supported in a rotating manner by a pin, the
pin being, in turn, supported at a distance from the pulley,
each pulley being elastically supported by the pin to be enabled to perform an
elastic pendulum movement such that when no coin passes between the belt and the
flow plane opposite the pulley, the pulley has a rotation axis at a first distance from
the flow plane corresponding to a condition of the belt running in a natural plane

thereof, and when a coin passes between the belt and the plane opposite the pulley the rotation axis of the pulley is pushed against an elastic force to a second, greater distance from the flow plane corresponding to a condition of the belt running in a plane retracted from said natural plane, and when a coin falls into the underlying aperture for passage of the coins, the axis returns elastically to said first distance and extends beyond said first distance in a direction of the flow plane corresponding to a condition of the belt running in a plane beyond said natural plane in such a manner that the belt elastically pushed by the pulley resting thereon in the turn pushes the coin into the aperture.

2. (Currently Amended) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the pulley having the axis located at said first distance from the flow plane impresses a minimal thrust on the powered conveyor belt so that opposite the pulley the belt is virtually in a said natural plane.

3. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the pin is rigidly supported at an end of the pin located opposite to the pulley and the pin is made at least partially of elastically flexible material to allow said elastic movement of the pulley.

4. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein a guide projects from the flow plane adjacent to the apertures for supporting flow of the coins on a peripheral edge of the coins.

5. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 4, wherein between the guide and the apertures is a peripheral support step for the coins.

6. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 4, wherein said guide is inclined downward with respect to the horizontal along a direction of movement of the coins.

7. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 6, wherein inclination of the guide is around 30°.

8. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the flow plane is inclined with respect to the horizontal and transversely to the coin movement direction.

9. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 8, wherein inclination of the flow plane is around 60°.

10. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 4, wherein the powered conveyor belt is inclined with respect to said guide to supply a thrust component for the coins against the guide.

11. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the powered conveyor belt has a round cross section.

12. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the powered conveyor belt is an elastic belt of polymers.

13. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the plurality of pulleys are spaced from each other by a distance smaller than a diameter of the pulleys.

14. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the powered conveyor belt winds on two snub pulleys at ends of the selection path with

the pulley at a terminus of the path being the snub pulley powered for running of the powered conveyor belt.

15. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein between the coin feeder and the selection device along the path of the coins there are devices for verification of the characteristics of the coins and for rejection of coins not meeting predetermined parameters of acceptability of the coins.

16. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 15, wherein the verification device detects the characteristics of the selected coins from among diameter, magnetic permeability at several points, thickness, light reflection, profile and position.

17. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the coin feeder includes a powered disk rotating with an inclined axis to pick up coins from a container by side projections and release of the coins onto said inclined plane.

18. (Previously Presented) Machine in accordance with claim 17, wherein the projections are pairs of pins movable axially and synchronously with rotation of the

disk between a position of conveyance projecting from a side wall of the disk and a position of release retracted into said side wall.